



CAMP ERIE 2014

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is new this year?

We have tons of exciting additions to summer camp this year!

- **Camp Erie is expanding the age range to accommodate children 5 – 14 years of age!** Children age 12 – 14 will be located at the Erie Community Center and will go on all field trips with the ECC site. However, their day will be structured differently and they will participate in a leadership program in addition to the typical summer fun.
- **Camp Erie Registration Form!** Tired of waiting in line at Guest Service to register your child for summer camp? Fill out the new Camp Erie Registration form with the dates you would like to register your child for and leave with Guest Service staff or Megan Langerak, General Recreation Coordinator, to complete the registration process for you. This form does not guarantee your child a spot in each of the requested dates; however we will do our best to accommodate each individual.
- **Full Summer Option is back!** We have added the option to register for the entire summer, thus allowing you to breeze through the registration process. This includes a week for free! Parents can now choose from full summer, full week, or individual days.
- **No additional cost for Before/After Care!** Don't worry about stopping by Guest Service to purchase Before/After Care this year. We've included them in your camp fees.

2. Will the kids at Aspen Ridge do activities at the Center or will they be at the school all the time?

Camp Erie has grown and additional space is needed to provide relief at the Center. A unique partnership with Aspen Ridge Preparatory School (ARPS) was established last year to provide space for a second site. Campers at ARPS will swim at the Center on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. They will also use the gym, climbing wall, multi-purpose rooms and other Center amenities during each week of camp. Additionally, campers will use the Erie Community Park. Both camps offer a mix of indoor and outdoor activities, theme days, assemblies, special events and of course lots of activity!

3. How do I register?

You can register online at www.erieparksandrec.com or in person at Guest Service at the Erie Community Center. Registration will remain open at Guest Service until the Friday before each individual week of camp begins or until that week is full. A waitlist will be taken up to ten people, once the week is full. Affordable payment plans are available. New this year, you are able to fill out a Summer Camp Registration Form instead of waiting in line at Guest Service and staff will process your request just as soon as possible.

4. Where can I find the Camp Erie camper forms and other camp information?

Camp Erie forms and other information are available at Guest Service or online at www.erieco.gov/camperie. Go green and get your forms in faster by filling them out online!

5. If I fill out the Camp Erie Participant Forms, am I registered?

No, in order to register for camp you must enroll in the camp sessions you wish to attend, either at Guest Service or online. The Camp Erie Participant Forms give camp staff information about your child and permissions which are relevant to state licensing. The forms are due at least one week prior to attending camp. Early receipt of forms is appreciated!

6. What is your refund policy?

For Camp Erie activities cancelled by the Parks & Recreation Department, payments will be credited to your account. A refund will be issued upon written request. These request forms are located at Guest Service inside the Center.

A full (100%) credit or refund for Camp Erie will be issued upon written request if withdrawals are requested at least seven (7) calendar days prior to the activity start date.

No credit, refund or transfer will be issued for cancellations under six (6) calendar days prior to the activity start date.

Exception: In the event of a prolonged illness or family emergency, a 75% refund will be considered. A physician's note may be required.

Late activity registrations will not be prorated.

7. Are there payment plans?

Yes, there are payment plans available for individual days, partial week and full week sessions. Parents are required to pay a deposit of \$25 for each full week, or \$10 for each day or partial week. The balance will be due on the Friday before the week the camper attends. Payment plans are available when registering online or at Guest Service.

8. What are the qualifications and trainings for the summer camp counselors?

We follow the guidelines set by the Colorado Child Care Licensing Standards for camp staff screening and training. Camp staff are at least 16 years of age with most being 18+. Camp staff are supervised by the Camp Director and by the Assistant Camp Director. All camp staff are CPR, First Aid and AED certified and receive certification in Universal Precautions. Additionally, the camp staff are also thoroughly background checked. Prior to the start of Camp Erie, camp staff will attend 15 hours of mandatory training on various topics including: camp policies, facilitating games, and learning how to work successfully with children.

9. Does my camper need to bring a lunch?

Yes, campers must bring a nutritious sack lunch and two healthy snacks every day. Campers are prohibited from purchasing food or drinks from the vending machine during camp hours. All snacks and lunches must not require refrigeration, heating, or preparation of any kind.

10. What do you about peanut and other food allergies?

Campers with food allergies are provided a separate table to sit at during lunch and snacks. All replacement snacks and lunches (for lost snacks/lunches) are peanut-free. Also, any camp related cooking activities consist of peanut-free ingredients. We ask campers not to share snacks and recommend all parents to provide peanut free snacks and lunches whenever possible. In the event of an emergency, camp staff are trained in medicine administration.

11. What happens during swim time?

We plan to take the campers swimming at least three times a week. ARPS campers will swim at 11:00 am on Monday, Tuesday and Fridays. ECC campers will swim at 1:30 pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Camp Erie will not swim on Thursdays which are designated for field trips. ARPS campers will have access to the slide, play feature, and lazy river (depending on swimming ability). ECC campers will have access to the whole pool (depending on swimming ability). Swimming will generally take place for an hour each day and all campers will be swim tested on their first day of camp. A swim shirt is highly recommended as the campers often get cold. As a courtesy to our other guests, campers will not be allowed to use the hot tub at any time. For those campers who do not want to swim, an alternate activity will be provided.

12. Can my camper use floaties or a swim vest?

Unfortunately, floaties and swim vests will not be allowed at camp. Erie Community Center pool rules require children who use floaties or swim vests normally to be within arm's reach of an adult or in this case, camp staff member, at all times. To ensure the safety of all campers, we will not allow campers to use these items. Campers who are poor swimmers will use the play structure and zero depth pool.

13. Will the campers go off site?

Both camps will go off site on Thursdays for field trips. The two camps will go to different field trip locations, for most weeks. This is done to provide age-appropriate options for our youngest to oldest campers. A complete listing of field trips is located online at www.erieco.gov/camperie. In addition to field trips, the campers will frequently participate in activities at the Erie Community Park. Occasionally, the campers may go to a local park such as Erie Commons Park or to Thomas Reservoir to do a special activity, but for the majority of the time the campers will be at the Center (or ARPS).

14. What if my camper does not want to go on the field trip?

Unfortunately, there will be no additional summer camp activities or care held at the Erie Community Center or ARPS during field trip days. If your camper does not want to attend a field trip but has registered for the week, please let us know and we may be able to assist in finding other classes or activities that may meet your child's interests. These activities will not be affiliated with Camp Erie and may require an additional registration fee. Another choice is to register for individual day options.

15. Who will give my camper medicine if they need it?

We do ask that all medicine is administered before coming to camp each day, but, if any medicine is needed during the day, medicine will be administered by trained camp staff in accordance with Colorado Child Care Licensing Standards.

16. What is your process for taking the campers to the bathroom?

We typically employ a buddy system for bathroom breaks. We pair off two children of similar age and of the same gender to go to the bathroom together while a camp staff member watches for their return. If the bathroom is out of visual sight, a camp staff member will accompany two or more children and wait outside the facilities. Campers also have the opportunity to use the bathroom before and after each snack and lunch break.

17. Will the campers be broken up into ages?

Yes, the campers will be broken up into groups by age. This allows for all campers to participate in games and activities along with similar aged peers. Camp is broken up into the following age groups: Miners (5 - 7 years), Pioneers (8 - 9 years), Explorers (10 - 11 years), and Trail Blazers (12 - 14).

18. Why are my 7 and 9 year old not able to participate in summer camp together?

We separate the campers into age groups so that we are better able to gear activities and field trips specifically to them and things that they will enjoy. We apologize for any inconvenience it may cause you to drop-off your children at separate Camp Erie sites. However, if your child turns 8 years old sometime during the duration of summer camp they will be allowed to participate with the older campers at the Erie Community Center site.

19. Can I pick up my camper early?

Yes, you may pick up your camper early from Camp. Please speak with the Camp Director at your child's specific site during the morning sign-in to determine the time and location for the early pick up. There are no prorated fees for any early sign outs.

20. Where do the campers get dropped off and picked up each day?

Camp starts at 9:00 am and ends at 5:00 pm each day. Before and after camp care is also available. Before care will begin at 7:00 am, and after care will end at 6:00 pm. Sign in and sign out for Camp Erie at ECC will take place in the Briggs Room at the Erie Community Center, and sign in and sign out for Camp Erie at ARPS will take place in the cafeteria at the Aspen Ridge Preparatory School.

21. Why does the sign in/sign out person have to be 18 years old?

The Colorado Department of Health Services, Division of Child Care requires all campers to be signed in and signed out by an adult 18 years of age or older. The only exception is if the parent has signed the consent form for a camper, 10 years of age or older, to sign themselves in and out of camp. Campers under 10 years cannot be picked up or dropped off by anyone under 18 years of age.

22. Why do I have to go to the parent orientation?

The parent orientation is Monday, May 19 at 7:00 pm at the Erie Community Center. This is your chance to meet the site Directors, ask any remaining questions, review the camp policies, and see the areas the campers will be using during camp. This should last an hour and we ask for just parents/guardians to attend this year.

Additional questions?

Please contact: Megan Langerak, General Recreation Coordinator

Email: melangerak@erieco.gov

Phone: 303-926-2797

www.erieco.gov/camperie

Camp Erie policies and procedures are explained in depth in the Parent Manual